

WAIS Inc.

Books on a Network: NetBook™?

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SigWeb 12/14/93

SigWeb 12/14/93

Overview of Talk

- Network publishing's brief status
- NetBook: An analogy of Internet Information Services
- WAIS Inc: a work in progress
- Some Upcoming WAIS Systems

Network Publishing: Where Are We?

- Networks emerging from Government funding
 - Networks installed in Academia, Military, and High Tech
 - Networks starting to go commercial
- Information Services still in Government funding stage:
 - DARPA/NSF funding still dominant
 - Existing companies adapting (eg. Mead, Dialog)
 - First of Startups (eg. WAIS Inc)
- Yet to come: Games, Voice/data, Museums, Malls

What I Really Want

- My own information to be accessible to me
- Published information should find me
 - Fun to browse
 - Easy to dive into a particular point
- Usable Anywhere
- Help me share what I have learned

A NetBook Contains:

Table of Contents: Browsing (eg. *Gopher*)

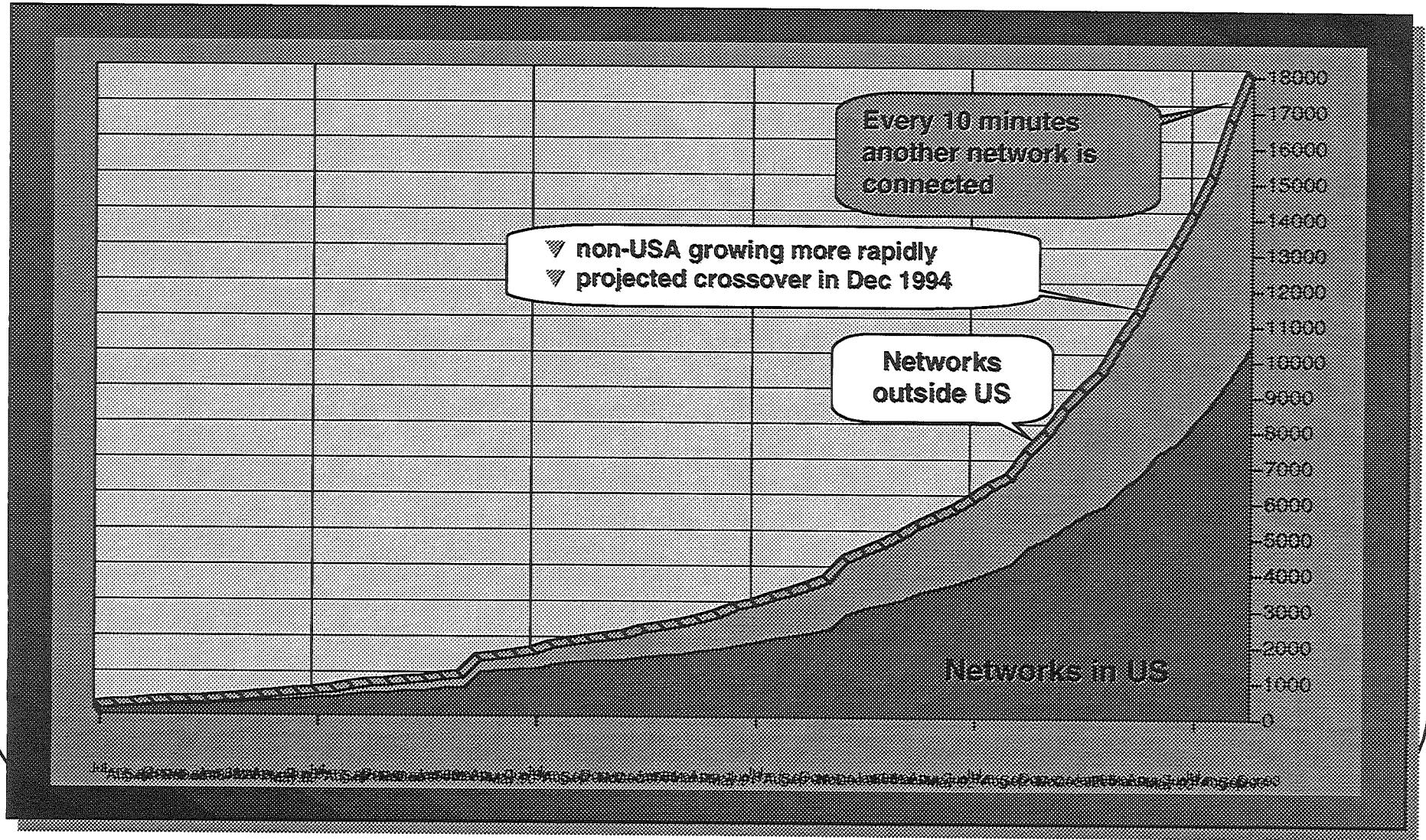
Pages: With active footnotes, dynamic illustrations (eg. *WWW*)

Index: Dive into a subject Area (eg. *WAIS*)

Works over a Network (eg. *Internet*)

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History of Connected IP Networks: The Internet



Internet Services: Navigating Global Information Space

Allows
Personal news
feeds

Allows Personal
browsing

Allows Finding
People

Allows Finding
Information

Allows
Automated
Gathering

Basic Services

- Remote computer use
- Transferring files
- Email

Mailing Lists and Bulletin Board Services

- Automated mailing lists
- News distribution

Interactive Information Delivery Services

- Gopher
- World Wide Web
- Mosaic

Directory Services

- WHOIS
- Netfind
- E500
- Wais

Indexing Services

- Archie
- Veronica
- WAIS
- online library catalogues

Active Agents

- Knowledge

Network Management

- SNMP
- CMIP

The Networked Table of Contents

- Browsing
- Hierarchical
- Editor constructed
- New:
 - Cross-machine links to other Tables of Contents
 - Ties to searches, library systems, etc.
 - Problems with reliability

Internet Gopher

- Introduced in 1992 by University of Minn
- Thousands of Servers
- Top level gets 10,000 requests an hour
- Very popular with “Internet explorers”

The Networked Page

- Hypertext links: clickable footnote (eg. WWW)
- Dynamic Illustrators: 3-D rotatable, motion, simulation (eg. Interleaf)
- Slower to flip pages: seconds to minutes
- Issues:
 - Fonts & page formats: SGML, acrobat, RTF, Common Ground, Postscript, ...
 - Picture formats: TIFF, GIF, CCITT(FAX)
 - Different screen sizes, resolutions, network speeds

Flipping Page Speeds

	Size	Over modem	Over Internet	Over Univ Internet
ASCII	2KB	2sec	1sec	1sec
Formatted	30-80KB	30-80sec	5-13sec	1-2sec
w/Picture	150KB	3min	25sec	5sec

Networked Back of the Book Index: Searching

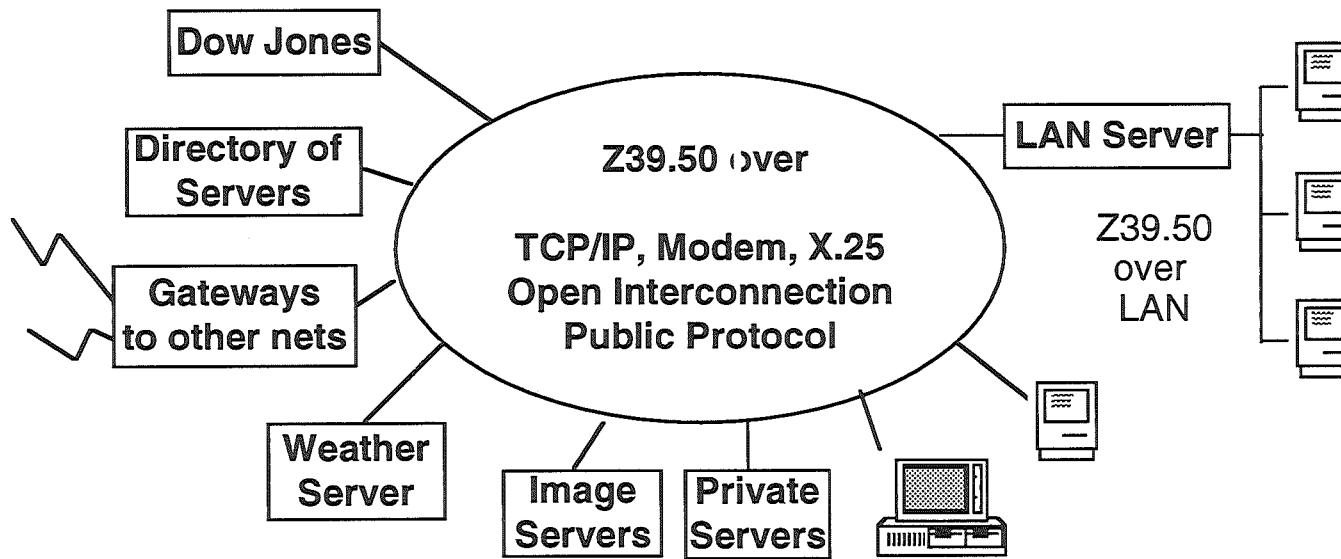
- When you know what you are looking for
- Manual indexing —————> full indexing
- Advanced navigation:
 - topic clustering,
 - query analysis,
 - relevance feedback
- Interactive through gigabytes

WAIS on Internet



- Over 50,000 users on the Internet
- Users in 28 Countries: Mexico, Singapore, Finland, Australia, ...
- 500 Databases served from 12 Countries:
Norway, Canada, UK, ...
New database every day.
- VT-100 Interface in California:
240 each day, 4,600 different machines

Wide Area Information Server Architecture



- Point-and-click interface to Worldwide Information
- Client -----> Protocol -----> Server

Speed of Searching

	Size	Speed
1 Book	1MB	<1 sec
1 yr of Wall St Jnl	100MB	2 sec
1 Enc Brit	1GB	2-5 sec
1 Lib of Congress	20TB	? sec

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Wide Area Information Servers, Inc.

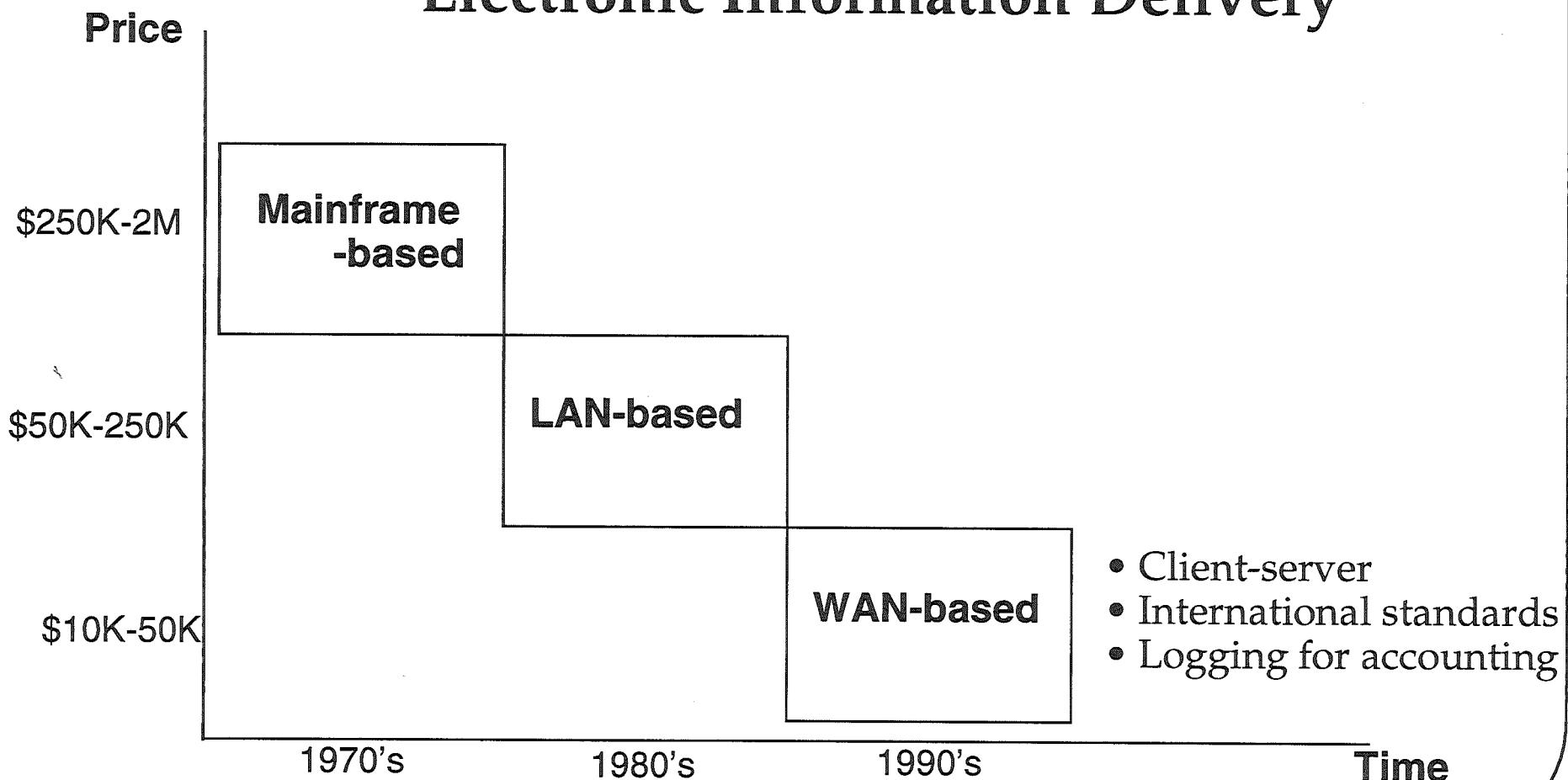
Internet Publishing

Current status

WAIS Inc: Network Publishing

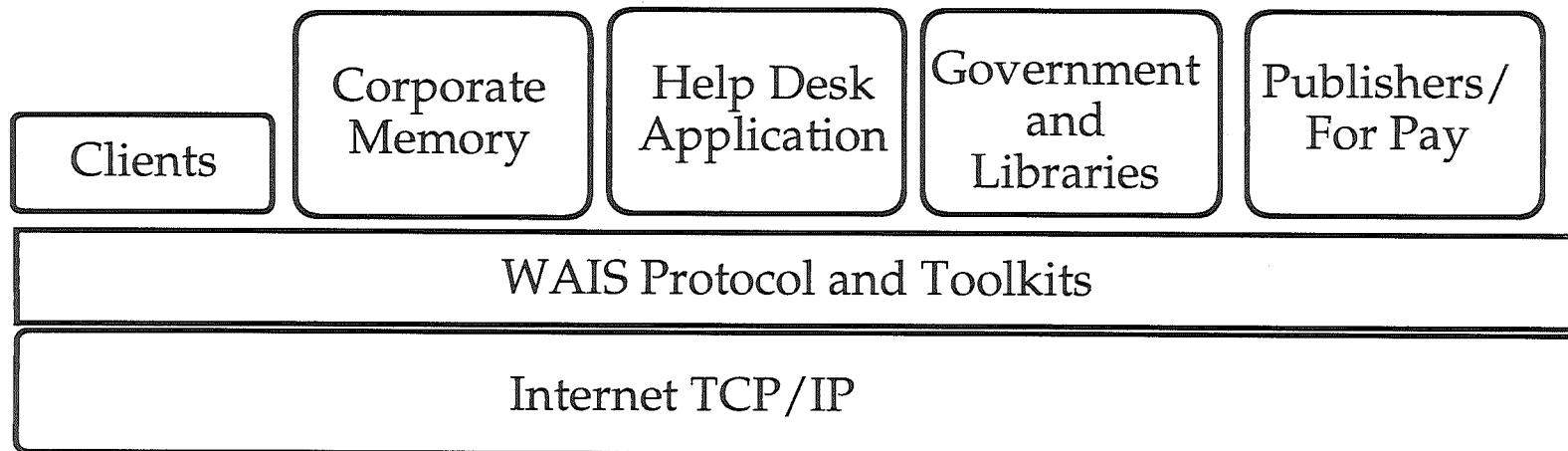
- Founded June 1992 from 1990 Consortium of Apple / Thinking Machines / DowJones / KPMG
- Technology: 2 Founders from Supercomputing
- Internet: Experience in Building an Internet System
- Publishing: 2 Founders from Publishing

Electronic Information Delivery



WAIS Inc. Position

- WAIS Inc. Brings:
 - Application Protocols
 - Database Server Technology
 - Wide Area Network Expertise
- Work with Industry Partners



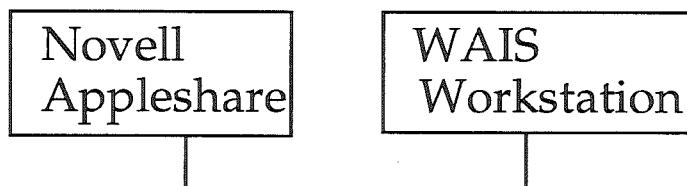
WAIS Inc Markets and Partners

- Large Corporations
 - Fujitsu, Intel
 - Perot Systems, Mitre
- Publishers
 - Dow Jones, encyclopedia, Scholastic Inc
 - Sun Microsystems
- Government
 - NASA, Defense, Intelligence
 - US Government Printing Office
- Libraries
 - Library of Congress, Rice University

WAIS Inc Products

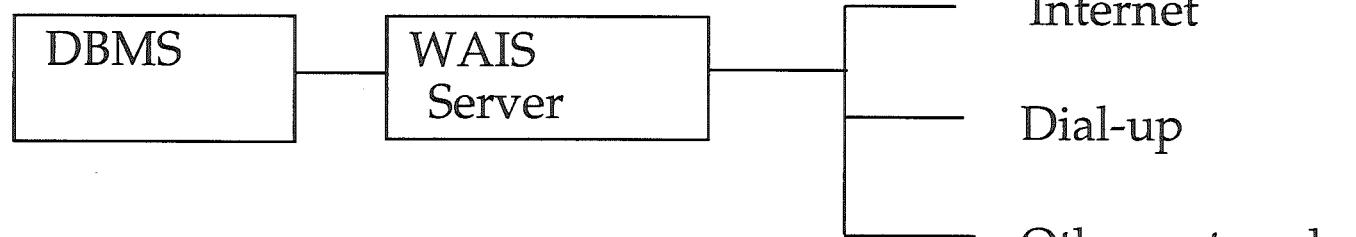
WAIS Workstation for Unix

\$10k-40k



WAIS Server for Unix

\$15k-50k



Services and Training

WAIS Navigation

- Optimized for Wide Area Networks
- Natural Language with Relevance Feedback
- Personal/Enterprise/Global Information
- Interactive Search→ Agents

WAIS Inc Server

- Mixed Natural Language and Boolean
- Accounting for Billing
- Network Security
- Data in original formats
- Popular Unix Platforms

Future Directions

- Servers: Integrate Gopher, Web, and WAIS Capabilities
- Protocols: Working on Standards Committees and Protocol Toolkits
- Online Services: Service Bureau of Publishers

1994 Plans

- **Server 2.0 Release: Integrate Browsing, DBMS, and Security**
- **Protocol Toolkit: Z39.50-v2, URL, (RSA or Kerberos), etc**
- **For-Pay Services on the Internet**

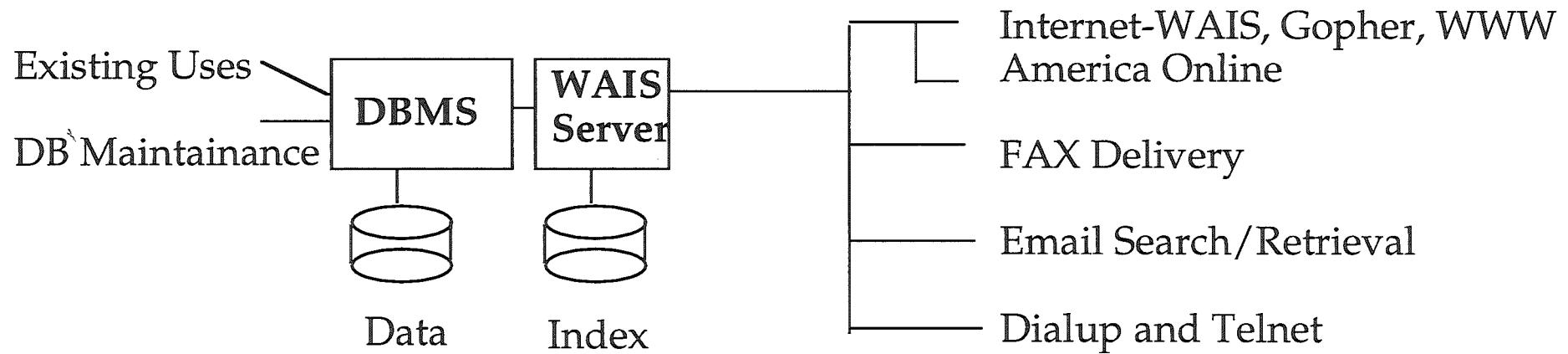
Some WAIS Systems

US Federal Agencies Using WAIS

The OMB Circular A-130 specifically notes: 'Emerging standards such as Wide Area Information Servers (using the NISO Z39.50 standard) will be used increasingly to facilitate dissemination of government data...'''

- NII: Government Information Locators System
- Department of Energy
- NASA
- US Geological Survey
- Intelligence (Open Source)
- FBI (Terror an Arson)
- Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC)
- US Department of Agriculture
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Securities and Exchange Commission (soon)

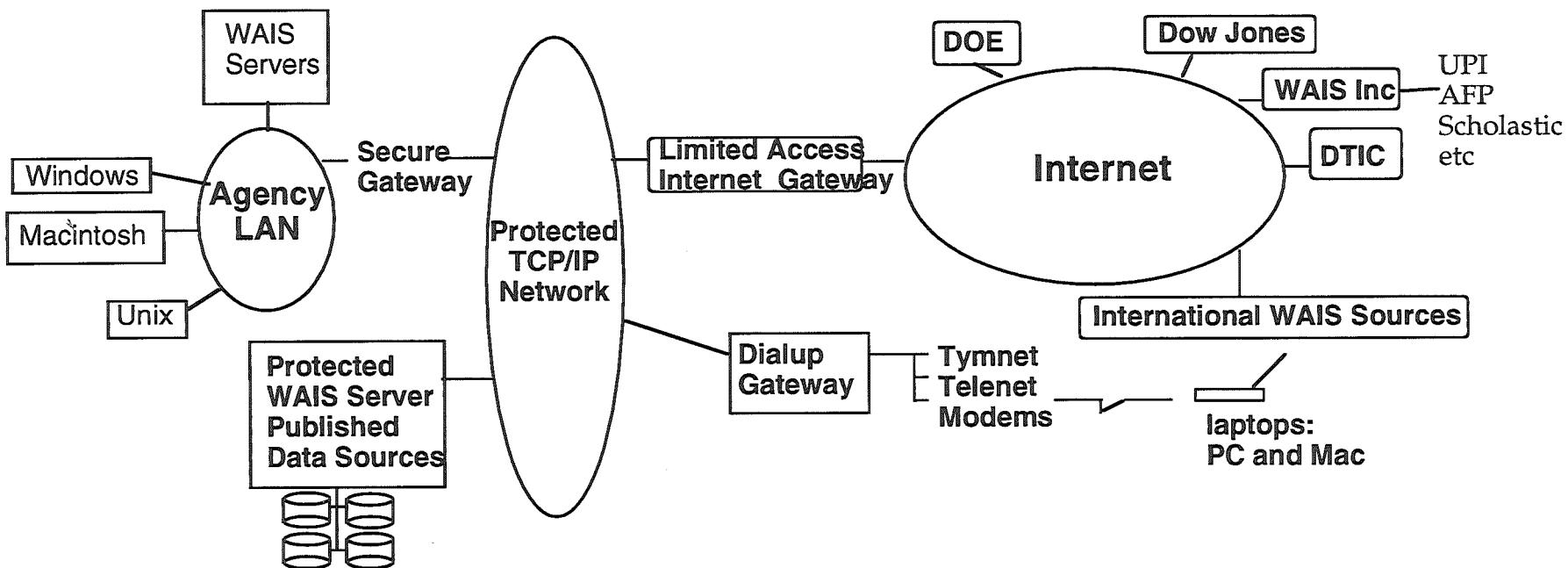
Defense Technical Information Center WAIS System



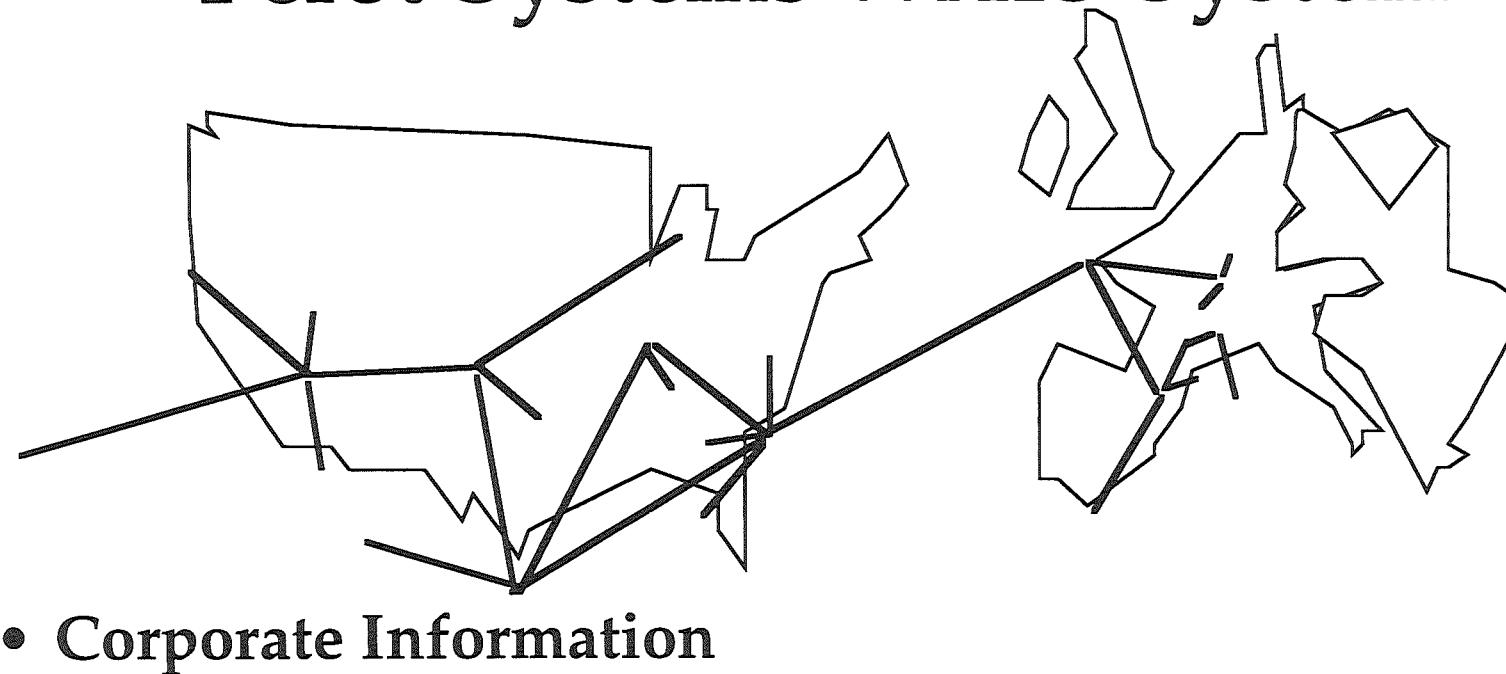
- Project Just Starting (due within 1 year)
- Increased access to Databases and Documents

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US Intelligence Agencies Open Source WAIS System



Perot Systems WAIS System



- Corporate Information
 - Resumes, Company Policies, Presentations, Contracts, Proposals, Phone book
- Published Info
 - CDROM's, Internet resources

Digital Libraries

- Easy to use card catalog (MARC records)
- Remote use from home or office
- Full text, scanned documents, pictures

[pegun.law.columbia.e] columbia-law-library-catalog
[pegun.law.columbia.e] columbia-spanish-law-catalog
[quake.think.com] tmc-library

Network Publishers: Sun Microsystems

- Combined use of Network Tools to Stay in Touch with Customers
- Email Lists to 10,000 users
- Archive Downloads of 12,000/day
- Press Releases, Bug Fixes, Etc

Digital Libraries and Network Publishing

Large Networks + Too Much Information = A Problem

WAIS Can Help Users Find Critical Information

WAIS Can Help Publishers Deliver Information to Users